"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth and no culture comparable to that of the garden." ~Thomas Jefferson .

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Licking County Master Gardener

Volume XX, Issue 4 July 2020

Memories — Nancy McClary

In our last Newsletter I requested comments from others about their "memories," but haven't received any for this issue. When reading this and you can contribute to OUR newsletter, please do it now rather than later as you might have forgotten when the next newsletter issue is due. To help you these are some suggestions:

* Your favorite garden spot in your garden?
* Your favorite garden art piece?
* Your favorite gardening story from when you were growing up?
* Your led you to gardening?
* Your favorite book you just read? Why?

2020 Sponsors — Barbara Toman

In these uncertain times, slowly, there are companies opening up again for business. This year has really thrown us for a loop, but as Master Gardeners, we are flexible and will continue with our mission. Our 2020 sponsors need to know that we care about them and their gifts to us, this year more than ever. If you are out and about, please stop in and say "Thank You from Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers for your sponsorship." A personal thank you goes a very long way in community relations.

2020 Sponsors:

Albyn's Garden Center
Ashery Farms
Birds Haven Farms
Cedar's Garden Center
Englefield Oil
First Federal Savings
Franklin Park Conservatory
Hope Timber
Lucinda Price
Oakland Nursery
Park National Bank
State Farm Insurance

Ideas of Interest — Loretta Pullins

Check out Florence Griswold Museum Fairy Gardens on Pinterest. I love the ones made with bark, Moss, and twigs. I am hoping to start building some around our property.

Also the Seek app, it is a companion to inaturalist and I use it all the time. Gives me a starting point on a weed, tree, plant and then I can research it.

Coordinators Column

Lori Swihart

I had to go into the office today (July 28) to pick up a few items that I was going to be needing in a few more weeks. I noticed the calendar on my desk and on the wall showing the month of March in 2020. It stopped me in my tracks. I remember on March 11th packing up the items in my office thinking that I would be out for just a few weeks or maybe even a month. I never imagined it being almost August and I am still working from home. Ohio State has been very good to faculty and staff and has made thoughtful decisions to keep all concerned safe. I feel blessed to work for such an entity. I then gazed upon the puzzle on the wall with the names of all of our members, past and present, plus staff that have been an integral part of the membership and our mission. How blessed am I to have the pleasure of meeting all those individuals that signed their names and have them become part of my story - including those that have not been able to sign a piece of the puzzle. We are Licking County Master Gardener Volunteers and all the personalities, varied work backgrounds, life stories, gardening passions meld together to create a team synergy. Covid-19 has dimmed the light on our mission and our activities, but this won't last forever. The Spanish Flu didn't last forever! The Plague didn't last forever! This will pass and we will rise above it and continue sharing our passion of gardening and all the wonderful benefits it provides to the physical, social and mental wellbeing to humans and our planet. This I declare!

"I then gazed upon the puzzle on the wall with the names of all of our members, past and present, plus staff . . ."

President's Column — Joe "Grizz" Smith

" . . . I have in fact enjoyed many of the 'new ways' of doing the "old things."

If I have discovered anything during this time of seclusion, it is that old things done new, create new ways of doing old things (ie. meetings, garden tours, dress (masks), hygiene, etc.) I am quite sure I have never washed my hands as much as I have in the last three months. To be honest, I have in fact enjoyed many of the "new ways" of doing the "old things." Online learning tops my list. What I have truly missed, probably like many of us, is our face-to-face, hand-to-hand, hug embracing fellowship. Divergent minded gardeners sincerely enjoy sharing time together talking about one of our favorite creative past time passions - GARDENING! The one thing I am assured of is: THIS DAY WILL RETURN.

Over the past few Zoom membership meetings, I have been requesting LCMGV to both serve as members of our Nominating Committee OR to submit your name as a desired nominee for any of the organization's offices (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) or Trustee. The Nominating Committee, Officers and Trustees structure, terms of office and duties are found in our Bylaws in VMS-Document/By-Laws. If you would like to serve our organization in any of the above mentioned capacities please contact me at: 740-704-5396 or grizz0799@gmail.com.

It was encouraging to see and greet LCMGV's at the Reddington Village Garden and Patio Walking Tours. We enjoyed touring seventeen (17) beautiful gardens with refreshments, shade, music and fellowship throughout our leisurely stroll. We at Reddington Village thank our gardener friends for their visit and invite everyone back to our 2021 Garden and Patio Tours.

See you in the garden.

Too Tall, Delicious, Too Large — Don Grube

One of those things that everyone knows when accepting a plant gift is to find out a little about the plant. Well, I had Yarrow so what could be so different! I accepted the plants and planted them in the ground last year in front of the other Yarrow to fill in the vacant space. This year they came up and were beautiful dark green- leafed but they forgot to stop growing and stay the same height as the other Yarrow. They are **four feet** tall, with beautiful large five-inch blooms and in the front of the bed blocking everything else. I would like to find a new home for them. *So if you have a place and would like them, let me know before they die!!!*

I have a Serviceberry bush where I planted several sprig together and the bush was full and very appealing. It was full of blossoms this year and very pretty. Later when mowing, I discovered it was full of serviceberries and I asked my wife if we could do something with those berries. Well I picked six cups and they made a delicious pie. A couple of days later I decide to go harvest some more so we could make some jam but when I got to the bush it had broken branches and the berries were gone. I think a deer had beaten me to them. Now some needed pruning to bring the bush back into shape and a fence is needed.

The Gooseberry bush has extended itself outside of its boundaries this year and is in need of downsizing. It produces well and the berries make a delicious pie and jam. *If you would like some starts please let me know because it is seeking some new owners.*

Metzler Donation

Lori Swihart

Phil Metzler recently donated the two 75-ft hoses shown below for use in the Learning Garden. We can always use more hoses. Thanks Phil!

Free Daylily Bulbs

Nancy McClary

I plan to replace a very large bed of Daylilies which have yellow blooms. There are MANY Daylily bulbs that I would like to give away. If you are interested, please contact me and we will make arrangements for you to receive them.

Timesaver

Lori Swihart

Why do I keep these scissors outside near my back door? They are pretty handy for when I decide to take a tour f my gardens. I can carry the scissors with me and quickly deadhead or trim anything while I am in the garden. It has been my timesaver. Do you have a timesaver to share?

RVC Plant of the Month — Grizz Smith

LILAC - Syringa (si ring ga)

There are over 400 and possibly 900 to 2000 different clones to the lilac. Originated from Europe and Asia, European colonists first brought the lilac to America in the 1750s.

According to Greek mythology, Pan, the god of the forest and fields became enchanted with Syrinx, a mythological spirit of nature. Unwanted pursuits by Pan, she ran to the river's edge and transformed herself into a beautiful shrub and changed her name to Syringa. Today she welcomes all who pass by who have a spirit of kindness and desire to enjoy her fragrance and beauty.

Lilac has four prevalent flower colors: White, representing youthful innocence; purple or lavender, symbolizing first love; blue for happiness and tranquility; with magenta expressing love and passion. It is worthy to note that lilac is the official flower of a couple's eighth wedding anniversary. Lilacs thrive in full sun (at least 6 hours), fertile, humus-rich, WELL-DRAINED, neutral (7.0 pH) soil. The most frequent question our villagers ask me regarding lilac is: Why aren't my lilacs blooming? We have three types of lilac in the village: Common lilac (s. vulgaris), Miss Kim (s. patula), and the Dwarf Lilac Tree (s. palibin). All three have the same requirements to produce numerous sweet fragrant blooms. As you walk the village you will notice that the lilacs located in the open or with a south/southeast exposure produce more blooms than those with a northern site. Lilacs DO NOT LIKE WET FEET and will not bloom with too much water. They won't bloom if they are over fertilized. A handful of natural (10-10-10) in late winter/early spring is all they need. Lilacs bloom on old wood, so it is CRITICAL to prune within one to three weeks after they bloom. If you prune in late summer, you very possibly will be removing the wood/buds required for next year's blooms. After every year's bloom, remove any dead or damaged wood. With older plants, remove one-third of the oldest canes down to the ground. Another option for old lilacs is to prune the entire plant back to 6-8 inches above the ground. Sounds drastic, but lilacs are extremely hardy. Remember, if you select this option, it will take a few years for desired growback height and flower bloom. Do not neglect that layer of compost/mulch for moisture retention, weed control (lilacs do not like competition) and plant nutriments. With our hot and humid summer, we may start seeing Powdery White Mildew. While it may be unsightly it is harmless to the plant.

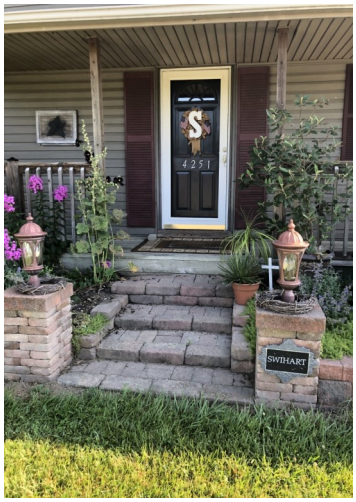
Throughout the Village, our prevalent lilac is Miss Kim. Discovered in Korea in the late 1940s, it is today used as a small garden or restricted space hedge. At maturity they grow to only six to eight feet and have a natural rounded form with deep dark shiny green foliage. The massive aromatic flower clusters start appearing in late spring to early summer. With its beautiful burgundy fall foliage, this lilac is an ideal selection for our charming Village.

See you in the gardens - "Grizz"

Hello A-DOOR-able

Lori Swihart

How members have decorated their doors



Lori Swihart

Cheryl Campbell “our home entry, never use the front door”

Tara Gill - “This is our front door. We have a bird door knocker that no one but us uses. Other people do not seem to know what it is.”

Kaye Alban’s front door decorated for 4th of July

Linda Mash

Jo Walters - “Loving the door of my just completed garden shed.”

MGV Dawes Bird Watching Garden

Kathy Stout

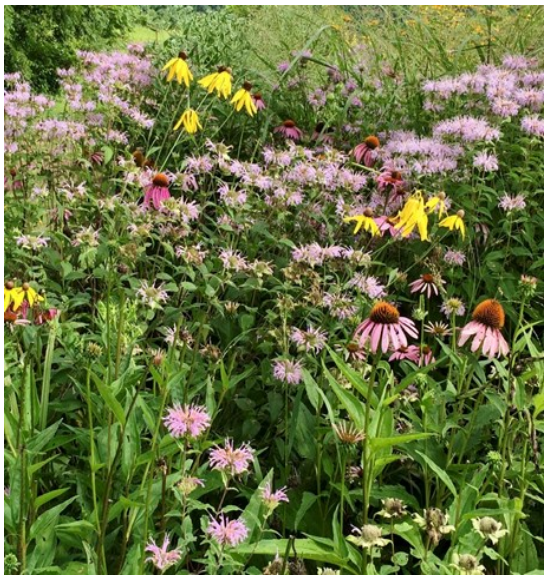
The MGV Dawes Arboretum team spent several months planning for a major Pollinator Garden redesign when, on February 25, the Arboretum closed due to COVID-19. Four months later, we were finally able to return to our planning and the garden. Despite an early freeze and long periods without rain the native plants greeted us with a beautiful floral display. In our absence, Arboretum staff had removed several trees and shrubs in anticipation of our renovation plan, leaving some huge bare spots. The garden is now officially "under construction."

In keeping with Arboretum guidelines, only four team members at a time are allowed in the gardens. Peter Lowe, Native Landscape Manager, taught us that visitors look at the flowers, not the weeds. We take his advice and do what we can by keeping noxious weeds at bay and pruning and deadheading as needed. The colorful annuals we usually plant in spring to provide summer pollen and nectar will be missing this year. We look forward to the late summer and fall native asters and goldenrods that will take the center stage and see pollinators through fall.

Some outstanding plants were in bloom or just past bloom in the garden as of July 15. Many will continue to bloom for some time or re-bloom:

Agastache, 'Blue Fortune'
Allium, 'Tall Big Globe Mixture'
Baptisia, False Blue Indigo
Bee Balm, 'Raspberry Wine'
Blue Grama Grass, 'Blond Ambition'
Butterfly Weed
Coreopsis, 'Zagreb'
Culver's Root
Lavender, 'Phenomenal'
Liatris, 'Dense Blazing Star'
Monarda, 'Prairie Gypsy'
Ohio Spiderwort
Phlox, 'Blue Paradise'
Potentilla, 'Dark Spot'
Rattlesnake Master
Russian Sage, 'Lacy Blue'
Salvia, 'Caradonna'
Wild Bergamont
Wild Quinine
Yarrow,'Coronation Gold'

June - Ohio Spiderwort in the background and Yarrow, 'Coronation Gold 'in foreground



July - Wild Bergamont and Grey-headed Coneflowers

LCMG Officers

Coordinator: Lori Swihart
President: Joe "Grizz" Smith
Vice President: Kathryn Bierley
Secretary: Cheryl Beaty
Treasurer: Mary Beth Mathews

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Fruit Production Resources — Lori Swihart

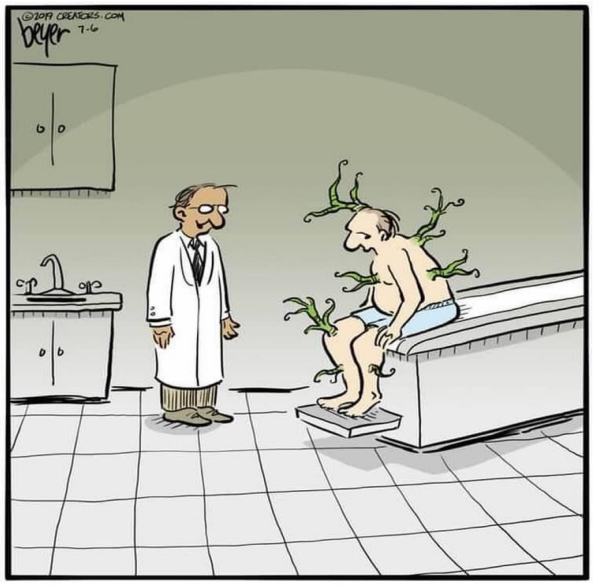
I have come across some rather interesting websites, chock full of information, that some of you may find interesting.

First up is Orange Pippin. Tons of info about apples, pears, plums and cherries varieties, where to find these varieties in which orchard , and a phenology report of the varieties in the orchards! Seriously educational! https://www.orangepippin.com/

Next is the Purdue Fruit Production Resources site filled with resources for pruning fruit trees, pests, production guides and much more. Here is the link: https://extension.purdue.edu/vigo/article/9305

Enjoy the journey of discovery on these websites!

Humor — Lori Swihart



"You have sprouts. It's something couch potatoes get after sitting for too long."

July
Brenda Fenton 3rd
Mary Beth Mathews 3rd
Coleen Slagle 13th
Julie Strohmeyer 17th
Loretta Pullins 30th

August
Cheryl Beaty 15th
Kathy Stout 21th
Elaine Boaz 22nd
Donna Walters 23rd
Cathy Williams 23rd